

WEATHER.

Fair tonight; Wednesday increasing cloudiness; gentle to moderate north and northeast winds.
Temperature for the past twenty-four hours: High, 35, at 2 p.m., today; low, 27, at 8 a.m., today.
For full report see page 15.

The Evening Star.

About every one in Washington who reads all reads The Star.

CLOSING NEW YORK STOCK QUOTATIONS PAGE 15

ONE CENT.

No. 19,844.

WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1915—EIGHTEEN PAGES.

BROWNLOW IS NOW D. C. COMMISSIONER

Takes Oath of Office as the Successor of Frederick L. Siddons.

TO SERVE THE CAPITAL WELL IS HIS AMBITION

Large Gathering of Officials and Personal Friends Witness His Induction Into Office.

Louis Brownlow today became a Commissioner of the District of Columbia, being the twentieth resident to be sworn in as a civilian Commissioner since the adoption of the District's form of government in 1878. There have been fifteen Engineer Commissioners.

The ceremonies took place in the boardroom of the municipal building, and were witnessed by a large gathering of District government representatives and friends of the new Commissioner. Justice Frederick L. Siddons, whom Mr. Brownlow succeeds, administered the oath of office.

Commissioner Brownlow was assigned jurisdiction over the police and fire departments, the office of weights, measures and markets and other departments over which Justice Siddons formerly exercised supervision. His first official act was to sign a paper granting authority for the subdivision of certain property in Petworth.

Boardroom Is Crowded.

There was scarcely standing room in the boardroom when the hour set for the swearing in of the new official arrived. Promptly at 11 o'clock Commissioner Newman, Engineer Commissioner Kutz, Mr. Brownlow and Justice Siddons entered the hall and a few seconds later the proceedings were under way.

Commissioner Brownlow repeated after Justice Siddons the oath required of Commissioners, following which he was sworn in as a member of the public utilities commission. The latter oath was administered by John R. Young, clerk of the District of Columbia Supreme Court.

Mr. Newman then welcomed Commissioner Brownlow as a member of the board. In a brief response, the new official pledged himself to work faithfully for the best interests of Washington and its people.

Glad to Serve Capital.

"I am very glad indeed to have been the recipient of such a high honor from the President of the United States," said Mr. Brownlow. "I am very glad indeed to be associated in this work with such distinguished co-workers as Mr. Newman and Maj. Kutz, and I am very, very glad to have so many of my personal friends and so many of the people with whom I have worked and so many people with whom I shall work, here this morning to welcome me."

"I perhaps may be forgiven for adding that when I lay down this work I hope I will have as many friends as I have now. I may go even further and make the one pledge that I shall make this morning, and that is that I will so endeavor to conduct myself in this office that each and every one of you will have more friends than I have now. To that end I bespeak the cooperation of each and every one of you. Whatever I may do in this office I assure you will be done with the purpose of serving the people of the District of Columbia. I think Washington is the most beautiful city in the world. I love it above all cities. I like its people; I love its people, and I am glad to be put in a position where I may be able to serve them to the best of my ability."

At the conclusion of Mr. Brownlow's remarks an informal reception was held, at which District building officials and employees were given an opportunity to meet the new member of the board. Louis Wilson, disbursing officer, conducted the presentations.

Present at the Ceremonies.

Commissioner Brownlow's induction into office was witnessed by Mrs. (Continued on Second Page.)

SEEKS STRIKE DATA OF "MOTHER" JONES

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Asks Agitator to Inform Him of Colorado Conditions.

MINE OWNER AGAIN HEARD BY FEDERAL COMMISSION

Questioned Regarding Alleged Policies of Fuel and Iron Company, Which He Controls.

NEW YORK, January 26.—John D. Rockefeller, Jr., today invited "Mother" Jones, the strike leader in the Colorado coal fields, to visit him and place before him all information as to the strike situation there. The invitation was accepted.

This invitation was extended by Mr. Rockefeller as he entered the room in the city hall where the federal commission on industrial relations is conducting its inquiry into the philanthropic foundations and the causes of industrial unrest. Mr. Rockefeller testified yesterday before the commission and was the first witness called today. As he walked from the door to the witness chair he saw "Mother" Jones sitting among the spectators. He stepped to her side and shook hands.

"That's very nice of you," she said. "I have always said that you could know but little of the conditions of the workers in Colorado, and that you should hear something else besides what these hirelings tell you."

After Mr. Rockefeller took the stand today Chairman Walsh read a letter written by Mr. Welborn (president of the company) to Starr J. Murphy of the personal staff of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. In the letter Mr. Welborn said that a clergyman at Sunset had made some remarks detrimental to the company, and that it had been suggested that the clergyman be removed. Although the clergyman had "made indiscreet remarks and had socialist tendencies," Mr. Welborn wrote that he hesitated to remove him.

Clergy Should Be Unrestricted.

As a citizen, Mr. Rockefeller said, he believed all clergymen should be free to say what they please. It was brought out that the clergyman in question had been severe in his criticism of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Co. in connection with the conflicts at Ludlow.

"Did you know that Jefferson Farr is a shareholder in that for fifteen years your company had used its influence to elect him?" asked Mr. Walsh. "Did you know that just before the strike he was in 300 men as deputies, and was told that the Colorado Fuel and Iron Co. would furnish them with arms and pay men?"

Mr. Rockefeller said that he knew nothing about that.

"As a citizen I say that anything which interferes with the operation of a democratic form of government should not be tolerated," Mr. Rockefeller added. "If properly used, it is in danger in a remote part of the country, the witness said, protection measures, taken, he assumed that the officials of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Co. had in view the protection of life and property when the deputies were sworn in."

"I do know," he testified, "that if my home and property were in danger I would take any measures within my power to protect them. Emergencies are likely to arise."

Knew of No Detective-Spies.

Mr. Rockefeller said he had never heard that detectives were employed by the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company to spy on the men. He did not believe that the rights of any man should be taken away from him.

"Suppose you found that the executives of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company had taken away the rights of the men?" he asked.

"I would have to hear all sides," he replied. "If the directors determined that the executives were guilty (Continued on Fourth Page.)"

NORIGHTS IN JOB, SAY P. O. OFFICIALS

Burleson and Praeger Answer Suit of George Dean, Civil War Veteran.

DENY THE JURISDICTION OF D. C. SUPREME COURT

Insist There Is No Warrant of Law for Retention of Inefficient Employees.

Postmaster General Burleson and Otto Praeger, postmaster of Washington, have filed answer to the mandamus proceeding instituted by George Dean, a veteran, discharged from the city post office, to compel his reinstatement under his view of the law exempting honorably discharged soldiers and sailors from being reduced or discharged from the civil service.

The officials question the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia to entertain the application, on the ground that the retention or discharge of employees involves the exercise of judgment and discretion of their official duties, and is not subject to review by the court.

Reason for Separation.

The respondents aver that Mr. Dean was separated from the service for the full capacity in connection with said service was then, and for some months prior thereto had been, impaired by reason of old age and infirmities. In the exercise of their official discretion, they declare, they determined that the character of services rendered required his removal, and they could no longer, in justice to their respective obligations to the government of the United States and in the proper administration of their respective offices, retain the plaintiff in the service.

The officials point out that Congress, by act of February 4, 1899, prohibited the establishment of a civil pension roll or an honorable service roll or the exemption of any of the officers, clerks and persons in the public service from existing laws respecting employment in such service as in March, 1909, Congress prohibited, it is stated, "the establishment of a civil pension roll or an honorable service roll or the exemption of any of the officers, clerks and persons in the postal service from the existing laws respecting employment in such service."

No System of Rating.

If the provision of the act of August 23, 1912, relied on by the plaintiff, applies to the employees of the Washington Postmaster General, the officials deny that it does, then, they claim, it can only repeal the above sections when and to the extent that the establishment of a system of efficiency rating by the civil service commission and the operation thereof required retention of honorably discharged soldiers and sailors whose ratings under the system should be "good."

Postmaster General Burleson and City Postmaster Praeger insist that no system of efficiency rating has ever been instituted by the civil service commission, and accordingly no standard rating has been established. There exists, therefore, they contend, no way in which the efficiency of any "good" or otherwise can be determined.

The court is told that at the time Mr. Dean was discharged he was rated "good" in efficiency rating, as is contemplated in the statute invoked by the plaintiff. In the Post Office Department the only method of ascertaining and declaring efficiency or inefficiency of an employee is by the use of the law and usual discretion reposed in the Postmaster General and the city postmaster, it is asserted.

Not Departmental Employee.

The claim is also made that Mr. Dean was never an employee of the Post Office Department, one of the executive departments of the government, but was an employee of the postal service and as such was not comprehended under the provision of section 4 of the act invoked and accordingly no standard rating was reposed even if that section had been in full force and operation at the time of his removal from the service.

The officials also cite Attorney Laskey and Assistant United States Attorney Arth represent the officials.

DENIES HUNS ARE TIRED OF WAR AND WANT PEACE

VENICE, via London, January 26.—Count Julius Andriassy, former premier and minister of the interior of Hungary, according to a dispatch from Budapest, characterizes as utterly mendacious a report that Hungary is tired of the war and is desirous of seeking a separate peace, and declares that peace will be concluded only in union with Germany and on terms satisfactory to both countries.

One of the chief tasks of the new Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, the dispatch says, will be to give the neutral countries a better understanding of the Austro-Hungarian foreign policy and win their approval of it.

AUSTRALIANS REFUSE GERMAN BIDS FOR WOOL

SYDNEY, Australia, via London, January 26.—At the wool sales today the auctioneer refused a German buyer's bid for a certain lot of the material. A dispute followed and when the lot was resubmitted for sale it was knocked down to a French firm at the price the German had offered. Other supposed German bids made later were also refused and the German representatives finally left the auction, having been unable to buy a single bale.

DAY IN CONGRESS.

Senate.

Met at 11 a.m.

The administration shipping bill as revised by the Senate caucus was reported by the commerce committee and debate on the measure proceeded.

House.

Met at 11 a.m.

Debate was resumed on the agricultural appropriation bill.

The commerce committee favorably reported a bill for life saving station on Duxbury reef, outside the Golden Gate at San Francisco.



News Note: Representative Gardner having invited the entire "Army Reserve" of sixteen men to a dinner, the suggestion of a "Bull Moose Survivor" banquet has been broached.

War Officially Reported.

German Statement

BERLIN, January 26.—The German official statement of today reads: "In the western theater the enemy, following his custom, placed Middelkerke and Westende (in Belgium) under fire yesterday. A large number of the inhabitants were killed or injured by this fire, they including the burgomaster of Middelkerke."

"Our losses yesterday were small. Our troops attacked the positions of the English on both sides of La Basse canal. While the attack to the north of the canal between Givenchy and the canal did not lead to the capture of any English positions, on account of a strong flanking movement, an attack of the troops from Baden to the south of the canal met with complete success. In this region English positions extending for over a width of 1,100 meters (1,200 yards) were taken by storm, and two strong points of support were captured. Three officers and 110 men were taken prisoners and one cannon and three machine guns were captured."

"The English attempted in vain to recapture the positions which had been immediately employed for our own purposes, but they were beaten back with heavy losses. Our losses were comparatively small."

"Battles successful for our troops took place on the heights of Craonne, to the southeast of Laon. All the attacks of the French in the southern part of the Argonne were repelled. More than fifty prisoners fell into their hands."

"In the eastern theater the Russians attacked positions of our cavalry to the northeast of Cumbinnen (in East Prussia) without success. Pierce artillery duels took place on the remainder of the front in East Prussia."

"Less important engagements to the northeast of Wicelawek, on the lower Vistula, forty miles southeast of Thorn, were successful for us."

"Nothing of importance has happened in Poland to the west of the Vistula river or to the east of the Pilica river."

French Statement

PARIS, January 26.—The French war office this afternoon gave out an official report on the progress of the war, reading as follows: "On the Yser front Belgian troops have made progress in the vicinity of Pervyse."

"At daybreak yesterday the Germans, one battalion strong, delivered an attack against our trenches to the east of Ypres."

"This movement was arrested sharply. Three hundred dead, including the commandant of the company at the head of the German advance, were left on the field of battle. This attack was to have been supported by certain companies from the German second line, but these men, under the very exact fire of our artillery, found it impossible to come out from behind their shelters."

"Not far from La Basse, at Givenchy and Guinchy, the enemy delivered five attacks against the British line. After having made some slight progress the Germans were repulsed, and left on the field numerous dead and sixty prisoners, including two officers. This attack was accompanied by endeavors at diversion at several points on our front. Between the road from Bethune to La Basse and Aix Noullette a detachment of the enemy which endeavored to come out from its trenches was at once stopped by the fire of our infantry and of our artillery. On the rest of the front between the Lys and Escaut yesterday saw artillery duels."

"To the west of Craonne the enemy delivered two successive attacks, each of great violence. The first was repulsed, but the second penetrated our trenches. By an energetic counter attack, however, our troops succeeded in regaining almost all of the ground lost by them. At this point the fighting is still going on around that part of the trench which is occupied by the Germans."

"In Champagne the artillery of the enemy yesterday showed less activity than on preceding days, while our batteries delivered an effective fire against the German positions."

"In the Argonne, in the vicinity of St. Hubert, we checked with artillery fire an attempt on the part of the Germans to deliver an attack."

"In Alsace the enemy was active in the employment of his mine throwers against our positions at Hartmann-Wellerkopf; at this point yesterday saw no fresh fighting. The Germans yesterday bombarded Thann, Lannach and Senthelm."

Russian Statements

PETROGRAD, January 26.—The following official communication was issued today by the general headquarters: "January 24 in the region between the Vistula and the Milawa railway there was no important modification to report, but there have been engagements between small numbers of units, and rifle firing. On the left bank of the Vistula a relative lull prevailed."

"North of the Borjowm farm the Germans were successful January 23 in capturing from us one of our advanced trenches of secondary importance. On the 24th near the same region the Germans attempted an offensive, and were successful in moving forward one by one and occupying another of their own trenches which they had previously abandoned. But as a result of our efficient fire they were obliged to evacuate that trench, which we seized."

"On January 24 our artillery checked seriously the movements of their troops along the front. At one point we captured by means of our heavy artillery fire a trench of the enemy, together with machine guns."

"In the region of the village of Kourjeschine, about five miles north of Rawa, our artillery destroyed an armored automobile which was advancing to bombard our positions."

"In Galicia we note a certain animation and activity among the (Continued on Second Page.)"

ENORMOUS GERMAN GUN IS DESTROYED BY BRITISH

ST. OMAR, France, January 26, via Paris.—The heavy artillery of the British has destroyed an enormous gun which the Germans were placing on a hill about a mile behind their first line of trenches, and about two miles from Festubert, with the object of silencing the English howitzers and bombarding Bethune.

The position of the big gun was marked by a British aviator and the fourth shell from the British guns demolished it.

The British gunners then directed their fire on a group of German artillerymen engaged in placing a similar gun a mile further behind, scattering them with a few well timed shells. They also smashed three pumps brought up by the Germans to empty water out of their trenches.

SERBS ARE REINFORCED BY RUSSIAN COSSACKS

LONDON, January 26.—An Athens dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company says that the Serbian army has been reinforced by additional Cossack troops. A considerable quantity of war supplies also has been sent to Serbia from Russia.

Kaiser's Son Has High Fever.

BERLIN, January 26.—Prince Joachim, the youngest son of Emperor William, has been unable to start his convalescent leave, as recently planned, as he has been affected with a high fever for several days.

Laborer to Millionaire.

"Common sense told me that there was no use running a business that would save people money unless I told them so—so I signed a newspaper contract for a half-page ad every week for six months, changing the ad every issue."

This man was a laborer 15 years ago when he got \$600 and started in business. His annual business today is about \$2,000,000.

"I believe if I had spent only half as much for advertising as I have spent I wouldn't be worth half as much as I am worth; furthermore, if I had spent twice as much for advertising as I have spent that I would be worth more than twice what I am worth."

If any one wants the full story of this success The Star will mail it to him.

The merchants of Washington spent more money in The Star last year than in the other three papers combined, because advertising in The Star brings the greatest measure of success, for the reason that The Star reaches every day practically every body in Washington.

PRaise OF SYSTEM AT THE WORKHOUSE

Comment by Dr. Bowerman on the Conditions and Administration.

SAYS THE INSTITUTION HAS GREAT RESOURCES

Will Become Self-Supporting Under Present Policy, He Believes.

Enthusiastic testimony regarding the excellent condition and efficient administration of the workhouse of the District of Columbia, situated at Occoquan, Va., comes from a party of fourteen Washingtonians who, headed by Dr. George F. Bowerman, librarian of the Public Library, made a trip of inspection to that interesting place yesterday.

The visitors were particularly impressed, said Dr. Bowerman this morning to a representative of The Star, with the thoroughgoing way in which W. H. Whittaker, the superintendent, has built up the plant on a scientific basis into a big business proposition administered in a manner that does both the District and himself credit.

The party included Mrs. Ernest P. Bicknell, president of the Monday Evening Club; Dr. Bowerman, vice president of the same organization; Miss Clara W. Herbert, head of the children's department of the Public Library, and Mrs. Bowerman and her class in sociology composed of ten girl pupils of the Colonial School, as follows: The Misses Miriam Williams, Dorsey George, Katherine Davis, Glorietta Pixie, Katherine Schultz, Frances Williams, Edna Kohlman, Katherine Matson, Isabel Polk and Ruth Peterson. They were met at the Union station by Mr. Whittaker and were his guests for the day.

Promises to Become Self-Supporting.

That the time will come when the institution, through the development of its own resources, will be more than self-supporting, was the declaration of the librarian. "Tangible indications of this already exist," he said. "For instance, the superintendent's house cost, we learned, about \$2,500. It is worth \$7,500; that is, it would have cost the government that much if built by outside people. But only through the development of the institution, through the development of its own resources, will be more than self-supporting."

"Tangible indications of this already exist," he said. "For instance, the superintendent's house cost, we learned, about \$2,500. It is worth \$7,500; that is, it would have cost the government that much if built by outside people. But only through the development of the institution, through the development of its own resources, will be more than self-supporting."

ENORMOUS GERMAN GUN IS DESTROYED BY BRITISH

ST. OMAR, France, January 26, via Paris.—The heavy artillery of the British has destroyed an enormous gun which the Germans were placing on a hill about a mile behind their first line of trenches, and about two miles from Festubert, with the object of silencing the English howitzers and bombarding Bethune.

The position of the big gun was marked by a British aviator and the fourth shell from the British guns demolished it.

The British gunners then directed their fire on a group of German artillerymen engaged in placing a similar gun a mile further behind, scattering them with a few well timed shells. They also smashed three pumps brought up by the Germans to empty water out of their trenches.

SERBS ARE REINFORCED BY RUSSIAN COSSACKS

LONDON, January 26.—An Athens dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company says that the Serbian army has been reinforced by additional Cossack troops. A considerable quantity of war supplies also has been sent to Serbia from Russia.

Kaiser's Son Has High Fever.

BERLIN, January 26.—Prince Joachim, the youngest son of Emperor William, has been unable to start his convalescent leave, as recently planned, as he has been affected with a high fever for several days.

Laborer to Millionaire.

"Common sense told me that there was no use running a business that would save people money unless I told them so—so I signed a newspaper contract for a half-page ad every week for six months, changing the ad every issue."

This man was a laborer 15 years ago when he got \$600 and started in business. His annual business today is about \$2,000,000.

"I believe if I had spent only half as much for advertising as I have spent I wouldn't be worth half as much as I am worth; furthermore, if I had spent twice as much for advertising as I have spent that I would be worth more than twice what I am worth."

If any one wants the full story of this success The Star will mail it to him.

The merchants of Washington spent more money in The Star last year than in the other three papers combined, because advertising in The Star brings the greatest measure of success, for the reason that The Star reaches every day practically every body in Washington.

REPEATED ATTACKS BY GERMAN ARMIES RESULT IN ADVANCE

British Lose Strong Position in Western War Arena, Says Berlin.

KIELCE, RUSSIAN POLAND, ALSO OCCUPIED, IS CLAIM

Czar's Troops Penetrate Hungary and Are Said to Hold Key to Josefava.

MOVEMENT NEAR PRZASNYSZ

Teuton Military Critics Puzzled by Foe—Austrians Think Bukovina Offensive Broken.

LONDON, January 26.—Greatly increased activity along the western battle front is reported in the official French communication of today. The initiative rests with the Germans, who in some sections delivered as many as five successive attacks of great violence.

In the region of Craonne the Germans succeeded in penetrating the trenches of the allies and holding some of the ground gained. Bombardment by the Germans of the Alsatian town of Senthelm, six miles southwest of Thann, indicates that they may have made some progress in this region also.

Germans Claim Gains.

The German war office in its statement says that two strong points of support in the possession of the English were captured by German troops in a general assault on the English positions near Labasse. The French statement, in discussing the fighting at this point, says that after delivering several vicious attacks, during which they made some gains, the British rallied and repulsed the foe.

In the eastern war area, the reported Russian invasion of Hungary, the Russian invasion of Bukovina, is attracting interested attention in London. A special news dispatch from Budapest sets forth that after a temporary check the Muscovites actually had penetrated Hungary, where they held the key to Josefava, an important strategic position.

Kielce Reported Taken.

One of the most striking incidents today was the report from Cracow, Galicia, that Austro-German forces have occupied Kielce, Russian Poland. Kielce is the capital of the Russian province of that name and lies in southern Poland, about fifty miles north of the border of the Austrian province of Galicia. In that region the fighting of the eastern campaign. Kielce has been a Russian base and is a considerable strategic point because of the fact that it is the most important railroad junction northeast of Cracow. Its capture, if effected, follows the Russian advance in the movement by the German and Austrian armies all along the eastern battle front.

Movement Near Przasnysz.

Official reports from the German army headquarters indicate that there is in progress a Russian advance of considerable size to the north of Warsaw, in the neighborhood of Przasnysz. German military critics are at a loss to predict whether this movement means that the Russians are proceeding to a new plan of campaign. It is pointed out that all Russian attempts to advance in this region hitherto have been repulsed. The Russian advance in Prussia, according to the general opinion, will find it impossible to advance farther.

Russian Occupation.

The Bucharest correspondent of the London Daily Mail says the Russians, after destroying the electric railway station at Jacobini, Bukovina, which was built by the Austrians, have occupied the whole of the Jacobini district, but only after a hard battle, in which the Russians lost an entire regiment in killed or wounded, and were obliged temporarily to retire to Czokanowitch under a constant Austrian bombardment, which prevented any advance until reinforcements were received.

Now hold the key to Josefava, in Hungary," the correspondent adds, "while Dorna-Watra is threatened and its fall is inevitable, the Russian commander of the Russian left wing, has arrived with his staff at Czernowicz, capital of Bukovina, and large numbers of Russian reinforcements which are arriving in Bukovina indicate that it is the intention to penetrate Transylvania until spring."

Belief in Petrograd.

It is believed in Petrograd, according to dispatches, that the German troops which have been moving through Hungary are intended to oppose the Russian advance in the southern Carpathians and that the announcement that they were to make a constant advance in the Carpathians is not believed possible that the Germans could prepare an army strong enough to act against Serbia until spring.

Petrograd reports that the Russian Caucasian army is closing in on the Turkish Black sea flank, where the Ottoman troops are described as in a dangerous plight. From the same source comes a report that the British army in Mesopotamia has met some success while advancing on Bagdad.



LOUIS BROWNLOW. Photographed in his office at the Municipal building this morning, shortly after he was sworn in.